

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Claims 1-56 were previously cancelled. Claims 57-112 are requested to be cancelled without prejudice to further prosecution on the merits.

Claim 113 is being added. No new matter is added.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

On page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-14, 16-29 and 31-55 as being unpatentable over International Pub. No. WO 03/050045 to Biesheuvel et al. ("Biesheuvel '045") in view of U.S. Pub. No. 2003/0159447 to Sergio et al. ("Sergio") under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

Applicant respectfully submits that new Claim 113 is similar to previously presented Claim 1. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that New Claim 113 has a unity of invention with respect to the claims of the searched PCT application.

New Claim 113 recites, among other elements, "wherein the cleaning system includes a cleaning system control unit configured to control the water processing means according to a predetermined cleaning program and to clean at least a part of the water processing means."

As acknowledged by the Examiner on page two of the Office Action, Biesheuvel '045 "does not disclose a cleaning assembly provided to the unit for completing a sanitation program."

Sergio teaches a sanitizer for a dispensing device (see Abstract, Title), that directs steam to a delivery nozzle. Sergio does not disclose providing the steam or other cleaning agent to any part of water processing means of the dispensing system. Furthermore, Sergio does not disclose any cleaning system part controlling a water processing system. Because Biesheuvel '045 does not disclose a cleaning assembly and Sergio only discloses providing cleaning to a nozzle area (and not a water processing system), Applicants respectfully submit that further modification of

Biesheuvel '045 and Sergio would be required to arrive at the claimed invention. Details and motivation for such modification are provided only by the Applicant's disclosure. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that new independent Claim 113 is patentable over Biesheuvel '045 and Sergio.

On page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 15, 30, and 56 as being unpatentable over Biesheuvel '045 in view of Sergio and further in view of U.S. Pub. No. 2004/0118291 to Carhuff et al. ("Carhuff") under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). Claims 15, 30 and 56 have been cancelled and the rejections thereof are now moot. Applicant respectfully submits that Carhuff does not cure the deficiencies noted above with respect to Biesheuvel '045 in view of Sergio.

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Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by the credit card payment instructions in EFS-Web being incorrect or absent, resulting in a rejected or incorrect credit card transaction, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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